



Defense Health Agency (DHA) Clinical Communities Speaker Series

SEPT 2022 CCSS: Transformative, Innovation-Based Updates in Modern Health Care Practice

S03: Ethical Aspects to Consider when Selecting and Recommending Digital Health Technologies

Resource List

Defense Health Agency's Connected Health Branch created a [Key Themes for Digital Health Ethics Resource](#) (2021). The authors outlined how ethical concepts and principles are the same for digital health as other modalities of treatment delivery including in areas of provider competence, patient capability, standard of care, confidentiality, crisis/emergency, compliance, informed consent, etc.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention assessed the [Public health impact of digital health](#) (2021) including potential evaluation tools. As digital health technologies become standardized and interoperable, and as evidence of utility develops, health care and public health will become more efficient and effective, ushering the new era of precision medicine. At the same time, potential risks and harms must be addressed. Until then, digital health adoption will be a challenge to its widespread use.

Rural residents face higher cancer incidence rates and mortality rates, disparities that could be mitigated with health technology interventions, yet a digital divide is also apparent. The article, [The role of digital health technology in rural cancer care delivery](#) (2021) systematically and critically examines existing literature to understand how digital technologies have been used to support rural oncology care.

China is becoming an aging society at the fastest pace in history, and there are a large number of empty nesters in the country. With economic and social development, internal support systems among families are gradually weakening. Supporting the elderly is thus emerging as a significant issue, and promoting digital health technologies is an effective way to help address it. Encouraging the application of Internet to elderly care and Internet use among the elderly are important means of promoting digital health technologies. The article, [Internet use and need for digital health technology among the elderly](#) (2020) examines the current state of the use of the Internet by the elderly and factors influencing it (including physical, psychological, and social) as well as demand among the elderly for smart services



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